Claims

[c1]   A management apparatus for managing a communication device, comprising:

an identifying table storing unit operable to store an identifying table having an identifying condition for determining a type of said communication device, said identifying condition corresponding to a check method of a function of the communication device that satisfies said identifying condition;

an identifying unit connecting to the communication device and said identifying table storing unit and operable to determine whether or not the communication device satisfies said identifying condition; and

a check unit connecting to an output of said identifying unit and operable to determine the function of the communication device by using said check method that corresponds to said identifying condition if the communication device satisfies said identifying condition.

[c2]   A management apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a check table storing unit connecting to said check unit and operable to store a check table for each type of communication device, said check table having a check condition for determining the function of the communication device based upon a specified function corresponding to said check condition, said check table for each type of the communication device being specified by said check method stored in said identifying table storing unit, wherein

if the communication device satisfies said identifying condition, and satisfies said check condition of said check table for each type of the communication device specified by said check method that corresponds to said satisfied identifying condition, said check unit determines that said communication device has said specified function corresponding to said check condition of said check table for each type of the communication device.

[c3]   A management apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a default check table storing unit connecting to said check unit and operable to store a default check table having a first check condition for determining the function of the communication device based upon a first specified function corresponding to said check condition; and

a check table storing unit connecting to said check unit and operable to store a

check table for each type of communication device, said check table being specified by said check method stored in said identifying table storing unit, said check table having a second check condition for determining the function of the communication device based upon a second specified function corresponding to said second check condition,

wherein said check unit determines:

that, in a case where said communication device satisfies said first check condition of said default check table, said communication device has said first specified function corresponding to said first check condition of said default check table, and

that, in a case where said communication device satisfies said identifying condition stored in said identifying table, and satisfies said second check condition of said check table for each type of the communication device specified by said check method that corresponds to said satisfied identifying condition, the communication device has said second specified function corresponding to said second check condition of said check table for said each type of communication device.

[c4] A management apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said identifying table storing unit stores a monitoring method for monitoring a status of said communication device satisfying said identifying condition, said monitoring method corresponding to said identifying condition, and

the management apparatus further comprising a monitoring unit operable to monitor said status of said communication device by using said monitoring method corresponding to said identifying condition, in a case where the communication device satisfies said identifying condition.

[c5] A management apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a specifying unit operable to make a user of said management apparatus specify an address of the communication device and to make said identifying unit and said check unit determine said type and said function of the specified communication device, respectively.

[c6]

A management apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a communication device displaying controller operable to display the communication device on a display of said management apparatus with an image corresponding to said type determined by said identifying unit; and

a function displaying controller operable to show said function of said communication device determined by said check unit,

in a case where a user of said management apparatus made a predetermined operation with respect to said image.

[c7]   A management apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said identifying table has a plurality of sets including respective combinations of identifying conditions for determining the type of communication device and check methods for determining said function of said communication device based upon satisfying a corresponding identifying condition, and said identifying unit determines which one of said identifying conditions is satisfied by said communication device based on predetermined priorities of each said plurality of sets.

[c8]   A management apparatus as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:

an input unit allowing a user of the management apparatus to input said plurality of sets to be registered in said identifying table;

a registration unit connecting to said input unit and operable to register said plurality of sets, input via said input unit, in said identifying table; and

a priority setting unit connecting to said identifying table storing unit and said registration unit, and operable to set said priorities for each said plurality of sets registered in said identifying table based on said respective identifying conditions of said plurality of sets.

[c9]   A management apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein, in a case where a first identifying condition of said identifying conditions is included in a second identifying condition of the identifying conditions, said priority setting unit sets said priorities such that a set corresponding to said first identifying condition has a higher priority than a priority of a set corresponding to said second identifying condition.

[c10]   A management apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said management

apparatus manages a plurality of communication devices, and said priority setting unit sets said priorities such that a set corresponding to one of said identifying conditions has a higher priority as a number of said plurality of communication devices satisfying said one identifying condition is smaller.

[c11]   A management apparatus for managing a communication device, comprising:
an identifying table storing unit operable to store an identifying table having an identifying condition for determining a type of the communication device, said identifying condition corresponding to a monitoring method for monitoring a status of the communication device satisfying said identifying condition;
an identifying unit connecting to said identifying table and operable to determine whether or not the communication device satisfies said identifying condition; and
a monitoring unit operable to monitor said status of the communication device by using said monitoring method corresponding to said identifying condition, in a case where the communication device satisfies said identifying condition.

[c12]   A computer-readable medium which stores therein a program for use with a management apparatus for managing a communication device, said program comprising:
an identifying table storing unit operable to store an identifying table having an identifying condition for determining a type of said communication device, said identifying condition corresponding to a check method for determining a function of said communication device that satisfies said identifying condition;
an identifying unit operable to determine whether or not said communication device satisfies said identifying condition; and
a check unit operable to determine said function of said communication device by using said check method corresponding to said identifying condition, in a case where said communication device satisfies said identifying condition.

[c13]

A computer-readable medium which stores therein a program for use with a management apparatus for managing a communication device, said program comprising:
an identifying table storing unit operable to store an identifying table having an

identifying condition for determining a type of said communication device, said identifying condition corresponding to a monitoring method for monitoring a status of said communication device satisfying said identifying condition;

an identifying unit operable to determine whether or not said communication device satisfies said identifying condition; and

a monitoring unit operable to monitor said status of said communication device by using said monitoring method corresponding to said identifying condition, in a case where said communication device satisfies said identifying condition.